



The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School*

8/25/17



**“We are crew, not passengers.”
– Kurt Hahn**



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Mr. Maddock Blots Out the Sun!

Demonstrating great control on Monday, Mr. Maddock briefly blotted out the sun as a celebration of his role as the sole Principal at GVCS!

Past co-principal Brian Martinez has moved into the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Grass Valley School District! Congrats Mr. Martinez!

Not letting the power go to his head, Mr. Maddock graciously did not insist on a total eclipse locally.

Our teaching staff made great use of this educational opportunity to learn about our solar system as well as collecting data with our garden teacher, Crosbie Walsh and our k-5 STEM teacher, Larry Lehman.



Cloaked behind some pretty cool shades, there was also an ample dose of wonder emanating from the faces of GVCS students!

Tis the Season to Launch Expeditions!



Fifth Graders donned their lab coats and dusted off their best mad scientists impersonations as they launched into their Expedition on States of Matter.

Facing challenges that included changing the state of matter of a large ice cube as fast as possible with the supplied materials – students had a great time in the science lab.

In striving for this objective, students met such learning targets as: “I can share my wonderful ideas and listen to my friend’s wonderful ideas” as well as “I can think like a scientist.”

Maggie / Merry and Cytanhia’s Fifth grade Crews are off to a rich start! We can’t wait to see what those mad scientists will come up with next time!



The sound of wings flapping and birds chirping echoed throughout the MPR earlier this week. Which can only mean one thing...

That Miss Sue & Miss Emma’s Fourth grade Crews are in for a treat with the Bills & Gills Expedition!

As an immersion kickoff into their Expedition students interacted with owls, hawks, snakes, and a crow from Wildlife Rehabilitation and Rescue.

Students learned how the animals ended up needing rehabilitation and rescue, and what they could do to help wildlife locally. Additionally students learned first hand about the physiology & adaptations of these amazing creatures!

Many thanks to our own Beth Dekker, who in addition to being a GVCS Adventure Teacher, also has her very own Wildlife Rehab Hat on her hat rack!

Sports Schedule!

You asked for it! So here it is, one place with all the sports info!

Information for the year is below, detailed info (practices, coaches, etc) will be added throughout the year.

All coaches do handout paperwork in all eligible grades / classrooms a week before practice. Additional copies of paperwork can be found with Heidi or Mr. E.

8/28 – 10/12: Girls Basketball with practices M-Th from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Scotten Gym. Grades 6th – 8th Coach Russ can be reached at russyokon@msn.com

NO Practice this Wednesday 8/30

MTB Club Fall Season

9/12 – 10/27

Cross Country: 10/23 -12/15

Boys Volleyball: 10/23 – 12/15

Boys Basketball: 12/18 – 2/23

Girls Volleyball: 2/26 – 4/27

Track: 4/10 – 5/26



Second Annual BBQ A Blast!

Last Friday GVCS celebrated our second annual welcome back to school BBQ!

With over 400 hotdogs, hamburgers and veggie dogs served in addition to a bounty of veggies from the school garden and that of our very own Cissy Murphy's garden – it was a resounding success!

While Mr. Maddock, Mr. Martinez & Mr. E were on the grills, it could not have happened without the support of our amazing office staff, counselor, aides and so many more!

It was wonderful to see everyone after Summer vacation enjoying catching up, catching a Frisbee or two and even visiting with some of our alumni who chose to stop by their alma mater.

A big "Thank you!" to all of our families who came out to support the amazing community that is GVCS! We could not offer the incredible experiences that contribute to making our school amazing without you. We look forward to an even more amazing year together than this last one!

Back to School Night!!!

Please join us on Thursday, September 7th for Back to School Night! Come meet your child's teacher(s), visit their classroom and learn how you can be involved!

5:00 – 5:30 Pre K

5:30 – 6:15 K-3

6:15 – 6:45 Whole School Gather in MPR

6:45 – 7:30 4th – 8th grade

Childcare is available (5:15-7:45) in room 28 at a cost of \$5 per child. RSVP with Laurie (lbeauvais@gvgsd.us)

Girls Basketball Co-Coach Needed

If you are interested in co-coaching the Girls Basketball season (8/28-10/12) with Coach Russ please email Mr. E at aezell@gvgsd.us Practices are Monday – Thursday from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Mountain Bike Club

The Fall season of the MTB Club is on the horizon, 9/12 – 10/27. Informational meeting Sept 7th from 5:00-6:00 pm in the Staff Room. Coaches will present to classrooms this week and sign up materials will be available on Thursday, Sept 31st. Contact Mr. E for more info aezell@gvgsd.us

Charter Alive – Enrichment Classes

Classes start the week of September 18!

GVCS offers an array of classes instructed by well-known and talented professionals from our community.

Bringing programs to the school is a win-win for the school, students, and parents. School site programming increases access, reduces costs, and programs operate as part of the school community.

This fall classes will include:

- **NEW**...French Classes for students in grades 2nd-5th and 6th-8th
- Creative Movement Dance with Laura Bishop
- Kuk Sool with Lila Reyna
- Theatre with Paulette Gilbert
- Art with the Artist Workshop
- For our youngest students - Turtle Tots Kuk Sool!

Be sure to check out www.CharterAlive.com for all the information you need on GVCS afterschool programs from athletics to Clubs. Register Now!

Get by with a little help from my friends!

Not just a good idea from the Beatles, but part of the Crew mentality here at GVCS!

We have some amazing supports here at GVCS including a 6-week Nurtured Heart parenting class taught by our very own counselor, Regina Curry!

The Nurtured Heart approach involves noticing kids' strengths and validating their skills. This approach is highly effective both at home and in the classroom, as it has a proven impact on all children, including those who are challenged socially, emotionally and academically.

The six-week session is offered from 9/19 – 11/7 (no meetings 10/17 & 10/31) from 5:30-7:30pm in the GVCS Staff Room. The cost is \$20.

An Expanded View of Student Achievement

At GVCS we have an expanded vision of student achievement. We believe that when a student graduates from our school, that they should be well on their way to becoming an effective and productive citizen, who not only envisions a better world, but possesses the tools to help create that world.

As students culminate their education, be it after college or vocational school, we know that their success is not solely dependent upon their test scores, but on the quality of their work and the quality of their character.

As such, at GVCS we consider student achievement to have three dimensions: Mastery of Academic Skills and Content, High – Quality Work, and Character.

We hope that you have found evidence of our commitment to these dimensions of student achievement in the previous pages.



Grass Valley Charter School

225 South Auburn Street
Grass Valley , Ca95945

www.grassvalleycharter.org



Our Design Principles

The Primacy of Self – Discovery
The Having of Wonderful Ideas
The Responsibility for Learning
Empathy and Caring
Success and Failure
Collaboration and Competition
Diversity and Inclusion
The Natural World
Solitude and Reflection
Service and Compassion